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does not refer to, the works of public men to show the general condition of public sentiment throughout the controversy over the land. There is no attempt at the admittedly large task of describing the parallel state system, which even more than the national system ignored any advantage to the public from a proper disposition of the land. Above all, the book is written from the administrative side downward; there is nothing from the settler's point of view, no narrative of the incidents, the difficulties and the joys of buying Congress land, no clear statement why the Hoosier lady advised her husband to "git plenty while you're a-gittin'!" After all the public land system was not merely an administrative device, it was a means to the wealth and happiness of communities. We want more of the mud of the Wabash bottoms, and the smell of the fresh turned prairie soil, yet not less of the painstaking, and intelligent study of sources which makes Professor Treat's book an indispensable tool for every student of the development of the West.

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Die natürlichen Grundlagen für die Eisenindustrie in Deutschland und in den Vereinigten Staaten. By WERNER NEUMEISTER. (Leipzig: Duncker und Humblot. 1910. Pp. 87. 2 m.)

The present and prospective relations of Germany and the United States as competitors in the world market for iron ore form the basis of this inquiry. The exultant self-sufficiency of America a decade ago is illustrated by a quotation from Mr. Vanderlip's "Invasion of Europe," while the present serious condition, arising from approaching exhaustion of mineral deposits, is proved by the conservation movement and some imports of iron ore made by Atlantic coast furnaces. Five chapters are given to a condensed description of the coal fields and iron deposits of Germany and the United States and other countries. The probable life of the supplies of the two countries chiefly involved is contrasted. This is entertainingly done, with reference to coal, by figuring the life of the German deposits on the basis of present output without increase, while American expectations are stated on the basis of indefinite continuation of present rates of increase. By means of this effective statistical device the author is able on one page to speak of 1700 to 1800 years' pro-

duction from the Upper Silesia deposit, while on the next page American resources are set down as worth 250 to 300 years.

The folly of estimates based on assumed rates of consumption, extending over hundreds of years, may be realized if we set a couple of current estimates side by side. One based upon the assumption that the American coal consumption doubles every ten years makes our supplies last 105 years; another based on present consumption without increase gives us a life of 2870 years!

The conclusions with reference to the future movements of the iron industry of the United States are that it will pass south as Connellsville coke is exhausted, thus cutting off what may be left of the Superior ores, which will not be able to make the long rail journey south of Lake Erie, or pass east over the inadequate Erie Canal of St. Lawrence, nor south by way of the "*wilde Strome*," the Ohio and the Mississippi.

The future of the industry in Germany appears to be that the great Silesian coal deposits will receive Swedish ores by way of a canalized Oder river, and will enjoy natural protection, from their inland position, in a central European market. The western coal deposits will work up imported ores and freely export iron products, falling back eventually upon large home supplies of ore, the export of which, as ore, the government will prohibit.

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NEW BOOKS

ALLEN, N. B. *Industrial Studies, United States*. (Boston: Ginn. 1910. Pp. xii, 325. 65c.)

An elementary book for schools, in which different processes of industry are described.

BRACQ, JEAN CHARLEMAGNE. *France under the Republic*. (New York: Scribner. 1910. Pp. vii, 376.)

Chapter III treats of the development of commerce and wealth.

CHAMBERS, J. *The Mississippi River and its wonderful valley, etc.* American Waterways Series. (New York: Putnam. 1910. Pp. xvi, 308. \$3.50.)

D'AUTREMER, J. *The Japanese empire and its economic condition*. (New York: Scribner, imported. 1910. Pp. 311. \$3.)

To be reviewed.

DECHARME, P. *Le comptoir d'un marchand au xvii^e siècle, d'après*